

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 775

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kim Trent upon the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the members of this General Assembly to recognize those venerable individuals who devote themselves to public service and furthering the public good; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Kim Trent, who has devoted the last fifteen years to serving as the executive director of Knox Heritage, from which position she took a much-deserved retirement this year; and

WHEREAS, established in 1974 as a nonprofit historic preservation organization, Knox Heritage is chartered by the State of Tennessee and governed by a board of directors representing all areas of the Knoxville community; it is the only organization in the region that works every day to protect historic places and structures, and without the organization, it is certain that many important buildings in the area would have been demolished; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Trent has been an integral part of Knox Heritage's success; with her at the helm, the organization grew from an unstaffed, all-volunteer organization to an effective, nationally recognized organization with a staff that includes a development manager, director of education, Historic Westwood events manager, and architectural and salvage coordinators; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tenure with Knox Heritage, Kim Trent accomplished much for the region; she worked with now-Governor Bill Haslam and the Regal Entertainment Group to save the historic buildings in the 500 block of Gay Street as part of the construction of the Regal Riviera theatre complex, worked in partnership with the Aslan Foundation to make Historic Westwood the home of Knox Heritage and the Regional Center for Preservation

Education, and helped bring HGTV's Restore America initiative to Knoxville, restoring two architecturally significant George Barber-designed homes in the Parkridge neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Kim Trent worked with local governments on historic zoning initiatives and the creation of the demolition delay ordinance in Knoxville, specifically designed to help save historic buildings; the organization was able to rescue and restore twelve endangered historic homes in the Parkridge, Old North Knoxville, 4th & Gill, Fort Sanders, and Edgewood neighborhoods through the Vintage Properties Program; and

WHEREAS, she and her staff and volunteers also engaged in outreach to home and business owners, assisting them with restoration and preservation planning, and community and local leaders, informing them of the positive economic effect historic preservation has on the community; and

WHEREAS, Knox Heritage expanded its work across the sixteen-county Knoxville region during Ms. Trent's time as executive director through the creation of the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance and;

WHEREAS, a trusted leader in her field, Ms. Trent has served on the Board of Directors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and as chairwoman of the Trust's Statewide and Local Partners; and

WHEREAS, Kim Trent intends to continue her service to the region as an agent with Coldwell Banker Wallace & Wallace, working in both residential and commercial real estate, in which position she can put her years of experience to use; she will also continue consulting with preservation organizations and preservation developers across the country via her new firm, Preservation Strategies, as well as her work with the National Association of Preservation Commissions; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Trent has devoted fifteen years to protecting the historic landmarks of Knoxville and East Tennessee, and it is fitting that she be recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Kim Trent upon the occasion of her retirement,

thank her for her honorable and important work as the executive director of Knox Heritage, and extend our best wishes for much success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.